

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Chickasaw Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

SHEBUTA BAPTIST CHURCH,

On Saturday before the first Sunday in December, A. D. 1876.

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MERIDIAN, MISS.

Printed at the office of the Southern Baptist.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS.

C. M. GORDON, S. L. ROBINS,
R. N. HALL,
 WM. D. NORTHRUP,
 O. D. BOWEN, LUTHER NORRIS,

Meridian.
 Enterprise.
 Quitman.
 Shubuta.

LICENTIATES.

A. H. SMITH,
 J. B. WALTHALL,
 SILAS EGGERTON,

Meridian.
 Enterprise.
 Quitman.

WM. D. NORTHRUP, Moderator,
 FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk,
 M. E. NORRIS, Treasurer,

Quitman.
 Quitman.
 Shubuta.

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MINUTES.

SHUBUTA, CLARKE CO., MISS., Dec. 2d, 1876.

Pursuant to call previously made, a number of the Baptist Churches contiguous to the M. & O. Rail Road, met in Convention at Shubuta, for the purpose of organizing a new Association.

On motion, Elder Wm. D. Northrup was requested to act as Moderator, *pro. tem.*, and Frank C. McGee was appointed Clerk, *pro. tem.* The exercises were opened by singing a hymn; after which Bro. L. A. Duncan led in prayer.

A Committee on Credentials was appointed, consisting of the following brethren, to-wit: M. E. Norris, O. D. Bowen and L. A. Duncan, who reported the following Churches represented:

Lauderdale Church—By Letter—No Delegate.

Meridian " L. A. Duncan.

Enterprise " Frank C. McGee.

Quitman " Elder W. D. Northrup and J. H. Johnson.

Shubuta " Eld. O. D. Bowen, M. E. Norris, M. B. Dees.

Buckatunna " By Letter—No Delegate.

State Line " A. J. Gray and Joseph Grisham.

On motion of Bro. L. A. Duncan, visiting brothers and sisters were invited to seats with us.

The following were appointed a committee to draft a Constitution and Articles of Faith, for the government of this body, to-wit: Brethren L. A. Duncan, M. E. Norris and O. D. Bowen, with instructions to report as soon as practicable. The Committee, after consultation, submitted the following Constitution and Articles of Faith, which were unanimously adopted:

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. The name of this body shall be the — BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. Its object shall be the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom, by the concentration of christian labor: the inculcation of Bible Truth, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse among the churches.

ART. 3. Members of the Association may be of two classes, viz: Delegates and Messengers; the first class, only, having the right to vote, and to produce evidence of their appointment by the churches, which they propose to represent, before being entitled to seats.

ART. 4. Each Church belonging to the Association, shall be allowed two delegates, until its membership shall exceed fifty, and an additional delegate for each fifty members thereafter; provided, that ministers who are members of any such churches, but supply other pulpits, may be appointed as additional delegates, above the regular quota.

ART. 5. The Association shall only have the power of an advisory council, and shall, in no wise, infringe upon the rights or independence of the churches.

ART. 6. No queries shall be considered by the Association, unless regularly sent up through the churches; nor shall difficulties between churches be discussed, until other methods of settlement have been tried without avail.

ART. 7. The Association shall meet annually, as may be agreed upon; and, after enrolling the names of delegates, proceed by ballot to the election of a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer; no brother being eligible to the same office more than two years in succession.

ART. 8. The duties of the various officers shall be similar to those of all deliberative bodies; and Mell's Parliamentary Manual shall be the basis of all decisions of order.

ART. 9. Churches holding the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, may become members of this Association, by a unanimous vote; and letters of dismission may be obtained, without assigning a reason therefor, by the concurrence of a majority; while the Association claims the right of withdrawing from such churches as it shall deem heterodox or disorderly.

ART. 10. This Constitution may be altered, or amended, at any annual meeting of the Association, by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates present; provided, the proposed alteration, or amendment shall have been submitted at the session immediately preceding.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in power and glory.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the old Testament and the new, were written by the inspiration of God; and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, of total depravity, and of man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4. We believe that God chose his people, in Christ Jesus, before the foundation of the world, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe that sinners are justified, in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth; and as he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, therefore all are required to obey.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and the only evidence of Justification; and that all believers will abound therein from a principle of love.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust; the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is composed of faithful persons only, who have covenanted to keep up a discipline, agreeable to the rules of the New Testament.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law giver of His Church, and that the government is with the Church, each member having an equal right therein.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of the Church, and are to be continued until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

12. We believe that immersion alone is Baptism, and can be administered only by those duly set apart by the Church; and that believers in Christ, only, are the proper subjects of the ordinance.

13. We believe that regularly baptised believers, only, have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

The following Committees were appointed, to-wit:

On Missions—Brothers A. J. Gray, J. H. Johnson and M. E. Norris.

Sunday Schools—L. A. Duncan, Joseph Grisham, M. B. Dees and J. C. Lloyd.

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Education—Elder O. D. Bowen, A. J. Gray and M. E. Norris.
Publications—J. L. Gray, L. A. Duncan, J. H. Johnson and A. J. Gray.

To Draw up Rules of Decorum—M. E. Norris, Joseph Grisham and L. A. Duncan.

On Devotional Exercises—Elder O. D. Bowen, M. E. Norris and M. B. Dees.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported as follows, to-wit: Preaching to-night at 7 o'clock by Elder W. D. Northrup; Sabbath at 11 o'clock, Elder J. M. Phillips; Sunday night at 7 o'clock, Elder W. D. Northrup.

Brother J. L. Gray was received as a delegate from Salem Church at Waynesboro.

On motion, the Association adjourned till 3 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Bowen. Benediction by the Moderator.

SATURDAY EVENING, 3 O'CLOCK

The Association was called to order by Elder Northrup, Moderator *pro tem*.

The following additional delegates were reported, viz: Brother J. C. Lloyd from Meridian Church, and Brother Jephtha Parker from DeSoto Church.

The following Rules of Decorum were submitted by the Committee and adopted:

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. All meetings of this Association shall be opened with prayer, and closed by praise or benediction.

2. The officers of the Association shall hold their positions until successors are chosen.

3. The Moderator shall preside, or some brother whom he may designate while speaking, and shall preserve order; his decisions being final, unless an appeal is immediately made to the body.

4. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise and address the Moderator.

5. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under discussion, or use personal reflections.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be put to a vote, unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. After allowing due time for debate, all questions taken up shall be disposed of, before any other motion can be entertained.

8. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject, without permission of the Association; nor shall any practice be tolerated which interrupts speaking.

9. Members shall use the term brother, when speaking of each other, and shall be rebuked by the Moderator for violation of these rules.

10. These rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers with the following result: Elder Wm. D. Northrup was chosen Moderator, Frank C. McGee, Clerk, and M. E. Norris, Treasurer.

Committee on Missions made the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee on Missions report that the subject of Missions should interest the followers of Jesus, at all times, and under all circumstances; because through the instrumentality of Missionaries, as the agents of God, the Gospel with all its attendant benefits, has moved as the pioneer of civil and religious liberty; and we would, therefore, earnestly recommend the organization of a *Baptist Missionary Society* in each Church belonging to this Association, and appeal to every lover of the Gospel of Christ, to aid in sending the glad tidings of salvation, to those who are without God, or hope in the world.

A. J. GRAY, Chairman.

Committee on Sunday Schools made the following report, which was adopted:

Your Committee would suggest, the propriety of the Churches composing our Association taking this subject into more serious, and prayerful consideration. Sunday Schools, strictly speaking, are not of modern origin. Under the Mosaic dispensation, the command was to teach the law "unto the children," while the Psalmist breaks forth in these words, "Come ye children, hearken unto me, and I will teach you the fear of the Lord." But we come down, even more definitely, to the direct injunction of our Lord Jesus Christ: "Go teach all nations;" is the last great commission. The children are surely a part, and an all important part, of a nation—they are really the foundation. It is evident that if we would correct much of the evil in the land, we must heed the scriptural declaration, "now is the axe laid at the root of the tree."

There can be no just opposition to the Sunday School work, where it is understood. It is, or should be, a place where Bible truths are taught, and not the "commandments of men." Nor is it a school for children alone. Parents should take a deep interest in it, and if they cannot teach therein, should join an adult class. A more proper name for such schools would be Bible Schools. They should be this—nothing more, and nothing less.

In conclusion, we would urge that every Church, within our bounds, which does not already sustain a denominational Sunday School, begin the work at once, and "despise not the day of small things," if the effort is not crowned with immediate success. Let us remember that *duty is ours* and that *events belong unto God*. We are commanded to "sow the seed," it is "God that giveth the increase." Again, "he that goeth forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall, doubtless, come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

L. A. DUNCAN, Chairman.

Elder O. D. Bowen, Chairman of the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

Your Committee on Education report that the necessity for the education of our children is manifest; consider it from any standpoint we may. We feel that no argument is needed to convince our people of its importance; and while we believe that their minds are now turned in that direction, we would recommend Mississippi College for the education of our boys, and Meridian Female College for the education of our girls.

O. D. BOWEN, Chairman.

The following report of the Committee on Publications was adopted:

Your Committee on Publications report that the blessings to be derived from the circulation of sound religious literature in our bounds, admonish us to be vigilant in selecting such periodicals and papers for our patronage as teach the truth of God's word, as set forth in the Bible. We would, therefore commend the books issued by the Southern Baptist Publication Society, Memphis, Tenn., "The Baptist," and all other such publications, and urge their circulation among our people.

But we would especially recommend to the patronage of the denomination "The Southern Baptist," published weekly at Meridian, Miss., by Elder A. Gressett. It is a bold exponent of Baptist principles, and would do good in the various families of the State.

J. L. GRAY, Chairman.

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The Association then adjourned to 6½ o'clock to-night. Prayer by the Moderator.

SATURDAY NIGHT 6½ O'CLOCK.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Phillips.

Several names were proposed for the Association, and on a vote the following was chosen: "THE CHICKASAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION."

On motion, it was resolved that the next session of this Association be held Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1877, with Enterprise Baptist Church, at Enterprise, Miss.

Brethren J. C. Lloyd and A. J. Gray were added to the Committee on Devotional Exercises, and said Committee was instructed to report the names of the brethren who should preach the Introductory and Missionary Sermons at our next meeting. The Committee reported as follows: Introductory Sermon by Elder C. M. Gordon; Elder A. Gressett, Alternate. Missionary Sermon by Elder O. D. Bowen; Elder Wm. D. Northrup, Alternate.

On motion, the Moderator appointed the following Messengers, to-wit:

To Providence Association—Joseph Grisham and A. J. Gray.

Mt. Pisgah—L. A. Duncan and O. D. Bowen.

Salem—M. B. Dees and Jas. U. McCormick.

Choctaw—J. C. Lloyd and S. L. Robbins.

Liberty—O. D. Bowen and J. L. Stay.

Bethlehem—Wm. D. Northrup, W. J. Howze and Frank C. McGee.

State Convention—C. M. Gordon, R. N. Hall, Frank C. McGee, O. D. Bowen and L. A. Duncan.

General Association—L. A. Duncan, M. E. Norris and Luther Norris.

The following amounts were pledged by the Churches for expenses of the Association: Meridian \$5.00; Quitman \$3.00, paid; Shubuta \$4.00, paid; Enterprise \$5.00; DeSoto \$1.50, paid; J. M. Phillips 50c., paid. Total, \$24.00.

On motion, the Clerk was authorized to have a suitable number of Minutes printed, and draw on the Treasurer for the expenses of preparing and distributing the same.

It was resolved that all regular Baptist Churches convenient to the bounds of this Association, desiring to do so, be invited to join with us.

The following resolution offered by Brother L. A. Duncan was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the brethren and friends of Shubuta Church for their kindness in entertaining the Association.

On motion, the Clerk was instructed to prepare a Letter of Correspondence.

Resolved, That any member of this Association, who may be in attendance at the meeting of any body with which we affiliate, may be recognized as our messenger.

After remarks by Elder Bowen, the following amounts were paid towards the support of Brother Baron D. Gray at Mississippi College: M. E. Norris \$2, A. J. Gray \$1, J. C. Lloyd \$1, L. A. Duncan \$1, A. R. Johnson \$1. Total \$6.00.

The Association then adjourned to meet with Enterprise Church on Saturday before the first Sunday in November, A. D, 1877.

Prayer by Elder L. Norris. Benediction by the Moderator.
Wm. D. NORTHROP, Moderator.

FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk.

LETTER OF CORRESPONDENCE.

The Chickasahay Baptist Association to Corresponding Bodies:

DEAR BRETHREN—The first session of our Association has just closed. Nine Churches were represented by delegates and letters.

We feel greatly encouraged at the harmony of our proceedings, and at the interest manifested by the brethren in this, our initial meeting. What has been considered for some time a mere experiment, has now become a fixed fact. The Chickasahay Baptist Association is now fully organized, and we trust, under the blessings of God, that the Churches thus united, may press forward in the good work of spreading the Gospel of our Savior, in order that the poor may have the Gospel preached unto them, and in using all the facilities at our command to uphold the cause of ministerial education.

The usual table of statistics is omitted in the Minutes, from the fact that only a few of the Churches sent statistics. As most of our Churches formerly belonged to the Bethlehem Association, the brethren can refer to the Minutes of the last session of that body for information in this matter.

Our next session will be held on Saturday before the first Sunday in November next, with Enterprise Baptist Church at Enterprise, Miss.

FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk.

WM. D. NORTHROP, Moderator.

FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk, In acc't with Chickasahay Baptist Association.

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To amount collected at meeting of Association for Minutes.....	\$24 00
To amount sent by Lauderdale Church.....	1 00
To amount collected for support of Brother B. D. Gray.....	6 00—31, 00

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By amount paid for Minutes.....	\$22 00
By amount paid for Stationary, Postage, &c.....	3 00
By amount sent Elder W. S. Webb for B. D. Gray.....	6 00—31 00

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MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CHICKASAHAY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

ENTERPRISE BAPTIST CHURCH,

On Saturday before the first Sunday in November, A. D. 1877.

ENTERPRISE, MISS.:

PRINTED AT THE COURIER BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.

1877.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

C. M. GORDON,	}	Meridian.
S. L. ROBBINS,		Enterprise.
R. N. HALL		Shubuta.
O. D. BOWEN,	}	Quitman.
LUTHER NORRIS,		
WM. D. NORTHRUP		

LICENTIATES.

SILAS EGGERTON	Quitman.
A. H. SMITH	Meridian.
J. B. WALTHALL	Enterprise.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

O. D. BOWEN, Moderator	Shubuta
FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk and Treasurer	Enterprise.

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MINUTES.

ENTERPRISE, CLARKE COUNTY, MISS.,
November 3d, 1877.

The second annual session of the CHICKASAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION was held with Enterprise Baptist Church, on Saturday before the first Sunday in November, A. D. 1877.

Elder Wm. D. Northrup, the Moderator, being absent, on motion Bro. A. H. Smith was elected Moderator *pro tem*.

The exercises were opened by singing, and prayer by Elder T. J. Walne.

The following delegates were in attendance, to-wit:

Lauderdale Church—By letter—No Delegate.

Meridian " W. H. Hardy, W. P. Broach, J. G. Flournoy and A. H. Smith.

Enterprise " R. N. Hall, W. J. Howze and Frank C. McGee.

Shubuta " O. D. Bowen and W. H. Patton.

Quitman " W. G. Northrup.

DeSoto " H. H. Moore.

Waynesboro " J. L. Gray.

Buckatunna " G. W. Marshall.

State Line " Joseph Grisham.

Elder O. D. Bowen and Frank C. McGee were appointed to read the Church letters.

The Association proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of Elder O. D. Bowen, as Moderator, and Frank C. McGee, as Clerk and Treasurer.

Brethren J. G. Flournoy, J. L. Gray and Joseph Grisham were appointed a committee on Finance.

On motion, visiting brethren and Messengers were invited to seats with us, when the following reported and were received as Messengers from their respective Associations, to-wit:

Bethlehem—Elder J. E. Brunson and brethren C. H. McLe-
more, O. Robinson and J. T. Pigford.

Liberty—Bro. Preston S. Pearson.

Mt. Pisgah—Bro. J. B. Ishee.

Elder T. J. Walne, was also received as Corresponding Secretary of the State Convention.

The following were appointed a committee on devotional exercises: Brethren W. H. Hardy and H. H. Moore, with the pastor and deacons of Enterprise church. The committee made a partial report which was agreed to, as follows: In case of the continued absence of Elder C. M. Gordon, who was to preach the introductory sermon, that Elder T. J. Walne preach the introductory sermon at half past 7 o'clock to-night.

Committees were appointed as follows, to-wit:

Foreign Missions—W. H. Hardy, W. P. Broach, W. G. Northrup.

State Missions—R. N. Hall, H. H. Moore, G. W. Marshall.

Associational Missions—J. G. Flournoy, W. J. Howze, J. L. Gray.

Sunday Schools—Frank C. McGee, J. G. Flournoy, W. H. Patton.

Ministerial Education—W. H. Patton, A. H. Smith, Joseph Grisham.

Publications—Joseph Grisham, W. H. Hardy, W. J. Howze.

Mississippi College—A. H. Smith, W. H. Hardy, Frank C. McGee.

Meridian Female College—J. L. Gray, R. N. Hall, H. H. Moore.

Nominations—Frank C. McGee, W. P. Broach, G. W. Marshall.

After prayer by Brother A. H. Smith the Association adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock this evening.
Benediction by the Moderator.

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer by Elder R. N. Hall.

Brother A. J. Gray was reported and received as a delegate from State Line Church.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Committee on Foreign Missions submitted the following report, to-wit:

The subject of Foreign Missions is one which is too lightly considered and treated by the great mass of our Baptist brotherhood. We are too prone to excuse ourselves with the ever-convenient excuse that we have as much destitution in our own midst as we can supply, forgetting that God has imposed upon us the great obligation of sending the gospel to the nations that

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have it not; and that we will be held accountable if we neglect to discharge that obligation. For Christ has said, "repentance and the remission of sins should be preached among all nations in His name beginning at Jerusalem."

Do we recognize fully the fact that it is as much our duty to send the gospel to the heathen nations of earth, as it is to perform any other duty imposed on us as followers of the blessed Savior? Do we feel that we cannot escape the censure of our own consciences if we fail to aid in sending the gospel to the heathens? If not, then it is time that we were investigating this important question and see if we are not living in stupid direktion of a high christian duty.

The teeming millions of China continue to bow down to idols of their own creation; the unholy incense of idolatrous sacrifice continues to ascend from thousands of altars in the sunny land of Africa, and her millions still wander in the blackness of spiritual darkness; while Rome, once the mistress of the world, and whose gates have been closed for years against the bible, is now free, and the Macedonian cry is heard from her proud palaces and her hovels alike to "come over and help us." Brethren, shall we not discharge our duty to these benighted lands? Shall we not remember our own David in Africa, Simmons in China, Taylor in Rome—glorious heroes of the cross, who are doing valiant service under the banner of King Emanuel?

Your committee earnestly recommend the formation of Missionary Societies in every church, and inculcate the practice as well as the duty of giving something every week to the cause of Missions, be it never so small a sum—one, two, five or ten cents. and our Missionaries would be abundantly supported and their number increased.

May God put it into the hearts of this people to consider this matter and to discharge fully their duty.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. HARDY, Chm'n.

On motion of Elder R. N. Hall the report was adopted with the addition of the following resolutions:

1st. Resolved, That we endeavor to raise \$100 for Foreign Missions during the Associational year and that some member of this body be appointed to raise it.

2nd. Resolved, That we as churches make an effort to put the Foreign Mission Journal in our different churches.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Committee on Finance submitted the following report which was received:

The following is a list of the amounts sent up by the different churches, to-wit:

Meridian Church—For Min.	\$ 3 50	State Life Church—Minutes	4 00
Enterprise " Minutes	4 00	Indian Missions	5 35
Quitman " "	1 00	Foreign Missions	41 00
Home Missions	3 25	Home Missions	30 00
Shubuta Church—Minutes	3 30	Buckatunna Church—Min	2 00
Indian Missions	5 00	Salem (Waynesboro) Church	2 00
Foreign Missions, (including Elder E. Z. Simmons' rec't for \$10.00)	10 45	Minutes	1 50
Home Missions	31 60	DeSoto Church—Minutes	3 30
		Foreign Missions	3 25
		Home Missions	1 00
		Lauderdale Church—Minutes	

Total for Minutes \$22.30. Home Missions \$77.10. Foreign Missions \$24.75 (including Elder Simmons' receipt). Indian Missions \$10.35. J. G. FLOURNOY, Chairman.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Bro. W. H. Patton as Chairman of the Committee on Ministerial Education, submitted the following report:

Your Committee on Ministerial Education report that the necessity for the education of our ministers is conceded to be indispensable to the good of the cause of Christ. In this enlightened age we need an educated ministry. We recommend that each Church belonging to this body have a standing committee, and that it shall be the duty of said committee to look after and encourage any members of their Churches who think they have been called to the ministry; and if they are unable, financially, to prepare themselves for the exalted calling, to devise means for them to attend our College at Clinton. There were some twenty-five young men at Clinton last year who had in view the preparing of themselves for the work of the ministry. Nearly as many more have gone there this year—many of them needing assistance. The good of the cause of our Master demands that we render them such assistance as will enable them to fit themselves for this high calling. Your committee would recommend that we enter this work with earnest hearts, willing hands and open purses, and thus demonstrate that we are earnestly obeying the great commission. Respectfully submitted,

W. H. PATTON, Chairman

On motion the following Resolved, and that the M

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We as a de sissippi Colle piety, learnin it for the hig proud of it be from its halls. tages such as system of fre has been stea filled; the m excellent; th and we urge tion of learn some of our tions, of no g interest as M our own Coll we earnestly support of o

On motion night immed sions be set f

Eld. T. J: a text/the 14 Prayer by El The Com Elder O. D. at 11 o'clock J. M. Phillip at the Presb

On motion of Elder R. N. Hall the report was adopted with the following amendment:

Resolved, That we make an effort to raise \$100 for this work; and that the Moderator appoint some brother to raise the amount.

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE.

The following report from the Committee on Mississippi College was adopted:

We as a denomination have a right justly to be proud of Mississippi College. Proud of it for the high character, the piety, learning, integrity and efficiency of the faculty; proud of it for the high stand it has taken as an institution of learning; proud of it because of the character of the young men sent out from its halls. Although it has to contend with many disadvantages such as free tuition at the University, as well as a general system of free public schools throughout the state, yet its progress has been steadily onward and upward, and now its halls are well filled; the means for imparting a thorough education are most excellent; the course of instruction is elevated and thorough, and we urge upon our people to patronize this excellent institution of learning; and we cannot but deprecate the practice of some of our brethren in sending their sons off to other institutions, of no greater merit than our own. Every principle of self-interest as Mississippians, and as Baptists, dictates to us to support our own College in preference to others of no greater merit; and we earnestly commend to our people throughout our bounds the support of our College. Respectfully submitted,

A. H. SMITH, Chairman.

On motion, it was resolved that the extra session be held to-night immediately after preaching and the report on Home Missions be set for that time.

7½ O'CLOCK P. M.

Eld. T. J. Walne preached the introductory sermon, taking as a text the 14th and 15th verses of the 1st Chapter of Romans. Prayer by Elder J. M. Phillips.

The Committee on devotional exercises reported as follows: Elder O. D. Bowen to preach the Missionary Sermon on Sunday at 11 o'clock. Preaching Sunday night at this Church by Elder J. M. Phillips, at the Methodist Church by Elder T. J. Walne, at the Presbyterian Church by Elder O. D. Bowen.

STATE MISSIONS.

The following report of the Committee on State Missions was adopted, to-wit:

To the State Mission Board has been assigned the work of evangelizing the destitute portions of our own State. Few, if any, of our brethren have anything like an adequate conception of the vast and appalling spiritual destitution to be found within the territory of our State Convention. That territory embraces the State of Mississippi and all that portion of Louisiana east of the Mississippi river. Within this extensive territory there are large portions of the country where the saving gospel of Christ has never been preached; men and women are born, grow up to maturity and die without ever having heard the word of life from the lips of the living ministry. Much of that spiritual darkness spreads over what is known as the "Mississippi Bottom." Population is flowing fast into this wonderfully fertile country. Many are there now, and more are going, and yet they are to a large extent without the gospel. But this is not all; in the southern and southwestern portion of our territory the spiritual destitution is as great, if not greater, than in the "Bottom." Then again there are quite a number of growing and important towns where, without missionary labor, Baptist Churches cannot be built up. These towns should be occupied by us. Now, to supply these starving multitudes with the bread of life is the mission of our State Board. How vast that work, and how momentous the interests with which it is charged. This Board should, therefore, receive the warm sympathy and hearty support of every Baptist, or every Church, and of every Association within the bounds of our State Convention.

During the past Conventional year the State Board had under appointment 11 Missionaries. These Missionaries labored 1587 days; traveled 16542 miles; preached 835 sermons; attended 224 prayer-meetings; made 1274 religious visits; baptized 194 persons; received 102 by letter; restored 20 to Church fellowship; organized 5 Churches and 5 Sunday Schools, and distributed 20524 pages of tracts and expended \$5000 in Missionary labor. But instead of 11 Missionaries and \$5000 we should have 50 Missionaries and \$20,000. In conclusion, we would recommend the following:

- 1st. Resolved, That we heartily endorse the work of our State Mission Board.
- 2nd. That we cordially invite the Corresponding Secretary, or other agents of the Board, to visit our Churches and present the claims of our Mission Board.

3d. That Churches of Board. R

Committee was adopted

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We also our Sunday Baptist at State paper Meridian. denominat ments of I to have it of this As

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3d. That we urge our pastors to preach to their respective Churches on the subject of Missions and take collections for the Board. Respectfully submitted. R. N. HALL, Chairman.

PUBLICATIONS.

Committee on Publications made the following report which was adopted:

We urge upon the denomination within our bounds the importance of using in their families a sound religious literature, and, to that end we commend to them the publications issued by the Southern Baptist Publication Society as in every way fully coming up to the true standard of orthodoxy.

We also endorse Kind Words, published at Macon, Ga., for our Sunday Schools; and the Foreign Mission Journal, and the Baptist at Memphis; and especially do we commend our two State papers, The Record at Clinton, and the Southern Baptist at Meridian. This latter paper we particularly commend to the denomination as peculiarly adapted to the wants and requirements of Baptists in southeast Mississippi, and we would be glad to have it introduced into every Baptist family within the bounds of this Association. Respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH GRISHAM, Chairman.

MERIDIAN FEMALE COLLEGE

The following report submitted by the Committee on Meridian Female College was adopted:

Your Committee would report, that it is with pleasure we can recommend this school to the favorable regard of those interested in female schools of a high grade. We believe that the school is now an assured success, its prospects being now brighter than for years past. Its last session was so successful that its friends felt greatly encouraged, and its patrons were more than pleased. At the opening of the last session the attendance was large, and since then has considerably increased with expectations of a much larger increase. We commend to the favorable regard and full confidence of all having daughters to educate, the efficient and faithful President, Elder C. M. Gordon, and his competent corps of teachers; and to those wishing to board their daughters with the President and his estimable lady, we can fully commend the boarding department as being unsurpassed in its arrangements for religious, moral, intellectual and healthful improvement. Pupils attending this school can attend Sunday School and Church every Lord's day.

In addition to the previous advantages of the school there has

recently been added a valuable and extensive Philosophical apparatus.

We do not know of any place in this region of country that surpasses Meridian in its educational, healthful, moral and religious advantages, and we again commend Meridian Female College to those having daughters to educate.

JNO. L. GRAY, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Committee on Sunday Schools submitted a report which was adopted, as follows:

The Sunday School cause should be appreciated by the Churches composing this Association. No Baptist Church should be without a well regulated Sunday School. To be successfully conducted the Sunday School must have the earnest support and the fervent prayers of the members of our Churches. No man or woman ever becomes too old or learns so much of bible truths as to dispense with the teachings of the Sunday School. Certainly if the parents will take the proper interest in this all-important work their children will become enlisted. Your Committee would recommend that the members of the Churches in this Association, be they old or young, should attend upon their Sunday Schools, and are of the opinion that the neglect of this duty is what causes Sunday Schools to languish in so many of our Churches. Next to the preaching of the gospel we regard the Sunday School, under God's blessing, as a most successful means of leading souls to Christ. The facilities for learning God's word therein by the young are scarcely equaled any where else. We do, therefore, recommend that each Church that has not already done so proceed at once to organize a Sunday School; that they labor diligently and regularly therein in much prayer and study of the Word. We recommend punctuality on the part of the officers and teachers, that they may thus set an example which will be imitated by the scholars. We would commend the books published by the Southern Baptist Publication Society at Memphis as being cheap and sound, and Kind Words, edited by Bro. S. Boykin, at Macon Ga., as being an excellent Sunday School paper, and the uniform lessons contained therein, as being instructive and sound in doctrine. We urge upon the pastors within the bounds of this Association to work earnestly and zealously in the establishment of Sunday Schools wherever they find none. We recognize the importance of money in the successful conduct of these schools. No school will prosper without money to keep a full supply of books, and we are sorry to say that the

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members of our Churches rely too much upon the Superintendent and teachers to conduct the school, do all the work and furnish the money to keep the school supplied with books, papers, etc. Respectfully submitted. FRANK C. MCGEE, Chairman.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

The Committee on Associational Missions made the following report:

Your Committee beg leave to report, that the Almighty has made the preaching of His word accompanied by the influence of the Spirit the means of saving souls. We believe it the duty of God's people to furnish the destitute with the gospel, and that there is destitution within our bounds, therefore be it

1st, Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed whose duty it shall be to receive the amounts that may be furnished for that purpose, and employ a Missionary to labor in the bounds of this association.

2nd. Resolved, That all the churches be requested to take up collections at their meetings in December and March next for this object.

3rd. Resolved, That we recommend co-operation with the Mission Committee of Bethlehem Association.

J. G. FLOURNOY, Chairman.

Brother W. H. Hardy offered the following as an amendment to the resolutions of the committee:

Resolved, That the pastors of the churches within the bounds of this Association be, and are hereby, urged to preach to the churches upon the subject of Missions and that we do recommend that all funds raised for Home Mission be paid over to the State Board.

On motion the amendment offered by Brother Hardy was adopted as a substitute for the resolutions offered by the committee.

The following report of the Committee on nominations was adopted:

Your committee on nominations would suggest that at the next meeting of this Association Eld. C. M. Gordon preach the introductory sermon, with Eld. O. D. Bowen as alternate: Missionary sermon, Eld. Luther Norris, Eld. Wm. D. Northrup, alternate. We would recommend that the next meeting of this Association be held with the church at State Line, commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in October 1878.

Respectfully submitted, FRANK C. MCGEE, Chairman.

The following Messengers were appointed to-wit:

Salem Association.—Eld. O. D. Bowen and Brother H. H. Moore.

Liberty.—J. L. Slay.

Mt. Pisgah.—W. H. Hardy, J. G. Flournoy.

State Convention.—W. H. Hardy, C. M. Gordon, R. N. Hall, Frank C. McGee, W. H. Patton, O. D. Bowen and A. F. McGee.

The Moderator appointed Brother W. H. Patton to raise \$100 for the Ministerial Education, and Frank C. McGee to raise the same amount for Foreign Missions.

Brother Flournoy offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby given to the citizens of Enterprise for their kindness to us during our meeting with them.

The following offered by Brother W. H. Hardy were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the Moderator and the Clerk for the efficient manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be and are hereby tendered to the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in this city for a tender of the use of their houses of worship for preaching to-morrow night.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to have a suitable number of the minutes printed and distribute the same.

On motion of Brother A. H. Smith, it was ordered that the question of the disposal of funds sent up by churches for Missions within our bounds be referred to those churches for instruction in the matter.

After singing and prayer, the brethren extended the parting hand and the association adjourned to meet with State Line Church on Friday before the first Lord's day in October A. D. 1878.

FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk.

O. D. BOWEN, Moderator.

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FRANK C. MCGEE, Clerk and Treasurer, in account with CHICKSAHAY ASSOCIATION:

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To am't for Home Missions...	\$77 10	By am't paid T. J. Walne.....	\$77 10
To am't for Foreign Missions..	24 75	E. Z. Simmons' Receipt.....	10 00
To am't for Indian Missions..	10 35	Receipt for Foreign Missions	14 75
To am't Associational Fund...	22 30	Receipt for Indian Missions...	10 35
To am't from W. H. Patton		Am't paid for Minutes.....	30 00
for Minutes.....	2 50	Postage, Stationary, etc.....	2 50
	\$137 00		\$144 70
		Bal. due Clerk.....	\$7 70

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The name of this body shall be the CHICKSAHAY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. Its object shall be the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom, by the concentration of christian labor; the inculcation of Bible Truth, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse among the churches.

ART. 3. Members of the Association may be of two classes, viz: Delegates and Messengers; the first class, only, having the right to vote, and to produce evidence of their appointment by the churches, which they propose to represent, before being entitled to seats.

ART. 4. Each Church, belonging to the Association, shall be allowed two delegates until its membership shall exceed fifty, and an additional delegate for each fifty members thereafter; provided, that ministers who are members of any such churches, but supply other pulpits, may be appointed as additional delegates, above the regular quota.

ART. 5. The Association shall only have the power of an advisory council, and shall, in no wise, infringe upon the rights or independence of the churches.

ART. 6. No queries shall be considered by the Association, unless regularly sent up through the churches; nor shall difficulties between churches be discussed, until other methods of settlement have been tried without avail.

ART. 7. The Association shall meet annually, as may be agreed upon; and, after enrolling the names of delegates, proceed by ballot to the election of a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer; no brother being eligible to the same office more than two years in succession.

ART. 8. The duties of the various officers shall be similar to those of all deliberative bodies; and Mell's Parliamentary Manual shall be the basis of all decisions of order.

ART. 9. Churches holding the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, may become members of this Association, by a unanimous vote; and letters of dismissal may be obtained, without assigning a reason therefor, by the concurrence of a majority; while the Association claims the right of withdrawing from such churches as it shall deem heterodox or disorderly.

ART. 10. This Constitution may be altered, or amended, at any annual meeting of the Association, by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates present; provided, the proposed alteration, or amendment shall have been submitted at the session immediately preceding.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in power and glory.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the old Testament and the new, were written by the inspiration of God; and are the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, of total depravity, and of man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.
4. We believe that God chose his people, in Christ Jesus, before the foundation of the world, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

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5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth; and as he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, therefore all are required to obey.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and the only evidence of Justification; and that all believers will abound therein from a principle of love.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust; the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is composed of faithful persons only, who have covenanted to keep up a discipline, agreeable to the rule of the New Testament.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law giver of His Church, and that the government is with the Church, each member having an equal right therein.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of the Church, and are to be continued until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

12. We believe that immersion alone is Baptism, and can be administered only by those duly set apart by the Church; and that believers in Christ, only, are the proper subjects of the ordinance.

13. We believe that regularly baptized believers, only, have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POSTAL SUPPLY.									
	Monthly Meetings.	Associational Fund.	Foreign Missions.	Indian Missions.	Home Missions.	Total in Fellowship.	Dead.	Excluded by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Restored
Lauderdale.	4	\$1 00				\$23	1		3	5
Meridian.	3	50				64	2		24	2
Enterprise.	1	00				68	2		8	1
Quitman.		50				33			1	
DeSoto.		30	3 30	5 00	3 25	33	1		4	8
Shubert.		30	10 45		31 60	68			3	
Salem.		2 00								
Buckatuna.		4 00	11 00	5 35	39 00	22	2		3	2
State Line.						101			1	2
Total.	20	22 30	24 75	10 35	77 10	609	9	5	453	4231

R. N. Hall.
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J. M. Phillips.
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